

George HRADIL et al.  
1924/00003

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

George HRADIL et al.

Serial No. 09/216,859

Filed: December 21, 1998

For: SPOUTED BED APPARATUS  
FOR CONTACTING  
OBJECTS WITH A FLUID



Art Unit: 1741

Examiner: Unknown

Atty Docket: 1924/00003

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

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On page 1, between lines 1 and 4, insert the following:

--RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.

AA1